

Message Text

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LA OPINION (CIRC 50,000) HAS URGENTLY REQUESTED THAT FOLLOWING QUESTIONNAIRE BE FORWARDED TO SECRETARY KISSINGER IN CONNECTION WITH COVERAGE MEXICO CONFERENCE. ALTHOUGH OPINION CORRESPONDENT ENRIQUE ALONSO COVERING FROM MEXICO, EDITOR FEELS CHANCES TO TALK WITH SECRETARY LIMITED. THEREFORE REQUESTED PRESS SECTION FORWARD ATTACHED. LA OPINION EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AMONG MOST MEMBERS POST'S PRIMARY AUDIENCES AND CLOSELY LINKED TO INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS PERON GOVERNMENT. COVERAGE OF US FOREIGN POLICY IN GENERAL AND SECRETARY KISSINGER IN PARTICULAR HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE ALTHOUGH NOT ALWAYS FAVORABLE. FYI: OWNER/PUBLISHER TIMMERMAN REQUESTED INTERVIEW WITH SECRETARY IN SEPTEMBER 1973. (SEE REFTEL). WHILE POST AWARE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED AND DEMANDS AT THIS TIME, POSITIVE RESPONSE BY DEPT WITHIN REASONABLE TIME OBVIOUSLY WOULD BE HIGHLY BENEFICIAL OUR PROGRAM. POST CONVINCED QUESTIONNAIRE, IF COMPLETED, WOULD RECEIVE MUCH WIDER CIRCULATION THAN OPINION CIRCULATION ALONE. QUESTIONNAIRE FOLLOWS:

1. YOUR ROLE HAS BEEN DECISIVE IN REDEFINING AND UPDATING INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. THE USSR, CHINA, VIETNAM AND THE MIDDLE
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EAST ARE MONUMENTS TO THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT. LATIN AMERICA REMAINS, HOWEVER, AS AN AREA FOR WHICH NO NEW DEFINITIONS HAVE

BEEN FORMULATED. WHAT WILL BE THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TOWARD THE COUNTRIES SOUTH OF THE RIO GRANDE? WHAT DOES THE UNITED STATES EXPECT FROM LATIN AMERICA, AND WHAT CAN THE UNITED STATES OFFER LATIN AMERICA?

2. THE NEW AMERICAN POLICY SEEMS TO BE DOMINATED BY THE IDEA THAT AN ATOMIC WAR IS IMPOSSIBLE. THEREFORE, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE US AND THE USSR APPEARS PRIVILEGED, IN THAT THE WHOLE PANORAMA OF US POLICY RESOLVES AROUND THE NEGOTIATED ELIMINATION OF ALL PENDING CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS. DOES THIS MEAN THAT LATIN AMERICA HAS BECOME A MARGINAL AREA WITHOUT STRATEGIC INTEREST? OR DOES IT PERHAPS HAVE AN OBJECTIVE ROLE IN THE STRATEGY OF DETENTE? IF SO, WHAT IS THAT ROLE?

3. THE CUBA PROBLEM HAS BEEN NEGOTIATED WITH THE USSR SINCE CUBA WAS READ OUT OF THE INTERAMERICAN SYSTEM. AT THAT TIME, THE EXPORT OF SUBVERSION LED TO THE SUSPENSION OF DIPLOMATIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS. PRESENTLY, A DECLINE IN GUERRILLA ACTIVITY CAN BE OBSERVED IN LATIN AMERICA; PRO-SOCIALIST GOVERNMENTS, SUCH AS THOSE OF TORRES IN BOLIVIA AND ALLENDE IN CHILE, HAVE BEEN OVERTHROWN; BRAZIL MAINTAINS A SPECIALLY FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US AND ARGENTINA HAS UNDERTAKEN MODERATE POLICIES IN LATIN AMERICA. DO THESE CHANGES IN THE CONTINENT PERMIT A REVIEW OF THE CUBAN CASE? DOES FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE US AND THE USSR HELP IN THIS CASE? IF SO, CAN A LIFTING OF THE BLOCKADE BE FORESEEN? WHAT WILL HAPPEN WITH GUANTANAMO?

4. IN THE KENNEDY PERIOD, THE US LAUNCHED THE ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS WHICH ATTEMPTED TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AID TO LATIN AMERICA. THE PROGRAM DID NOT PRODUCE MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AREA, AND FINALLY HAS FALLEN INTO DISUSE. ARE THERE NO ALTERNATIVE COOPERATIVE PROJECTS WHICH FOCUS UPON THE DECISIVE PROBLEMS OF THE LACK OF CAPITAL AND TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRUCTURES WHICH BLOCK PROGRESS?

5. THE CLASSIC DISCUSSION BETWEEN LATIN AMERICA AND THE US REFERS TO THE TREATMENT OF RAW MATERIALS EXPORTED BY LATIN AMERICA. THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AND THEIR ZONAL GROUPINGS ASK FOR BETTER CONDITIONS OF TRADE. IN OTHER WORDS, THEY EXPECT THE US TO TAKE A DECISION WHICH WOULD BE OBVIOUSLY POLITICAL. NEVERTHELESS, THERE IS ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW WHICH CALLS FOR

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THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE INTERNAL MARKETS OF THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES THROUGH ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. THIS WOULD INTENSIFY ECONOMIC INTERCHANGE AND GENERATE THE FINANCIAL SOLVENCY NECESSARY TO ABSORB THE PRODUCTS OF HIGH US TECHNOLOGY. WHAT IS THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE STATE DEPT REGARDING THIS DOUBLE QUESTION?

6. THE US SEEMS TO HAVE CHANGED ITS MIND ABOUT THE PANAMA CANAL. COULD YOU EXPLAIN THE THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL REASONS FOR THIS CHANGE?

7. SOME TIME AGO, PRESIDENT NIXON SAID, "AS BRAZIL LEANS,

SO WILL LATIN AMERICA". THIS WAS, OF COURSE, A COURTEOUS
EXPRESSION WITH NO DETRIMENTAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE OTHER COUN-
TRIES OF THE CONINENT. NEVERTHELESS, BRAZIL HAS RECEIVED
A LARGE AMOUNT OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INVESTMENT, MOSTLY OF US
ORIGIN. AT PRESENT, AS BRAZILIAN PLANS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF A STEEL INDUSTRY, HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER, AND A HIGHWAY SYSTEM
ARE PEAKING, THE NEED TO IMPORT OIL AND RAW MATERIALS, IN
ADDITION TO PAYING THE SERVICE COSTS ON A HUGE EXTERANL
DEBT, WILL CREATE SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS.
IN THAT SENSE "THE BRAZILIAN MODEL OF DEVELOPMENT" WILL FACE A
SERIOUS CRISIS IN THE SHORT TERM. DO YOU THINK THAT BRAZILIAN
DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE PRESERVED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY,
OR SHOULD THE POSSIBILITY BE ACCEPTED THAT BRAZIL BE LEFT
ALONE TO FACE ITS PRESENT PROBLEMS WITH ITS OWN RESOURCES?
8. IN A MORE GENERAL WAY, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW BY
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